

**U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE
Western District of Michigan
Notice of Vacancy**

The Sixth Circuit Judicial Council is soliciting applications from persons interested in appointment as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Michigan at Grand Rapids. This position will become vacant upon the retirement of United States Bankruptcy Judge Jo Ann C. Stevenson on October 2, 2007.

United States Bankruptcy Judges exercise highly important judicial powers and responsibilities as officers of the United States District Courts. All bankruptcy cases under Title 11, United States Code, and all proceedings arising under Title 11 or arising in or related to a case under Title 11 are referred to the Bankruptcy Judges of a district. A person appointed as Bankruptcy Judge should have the character, ability, and impartiality to qualify such person for service in the Federal Judiciary. The term of office is 14 years. The salary of the position is \$151,984.

Bankruptcy Judges are appointed by the United States Court of Appeals pursuant to the Bankruptcy Amendments and Federal Judgeship Act of 1984, P.L. 98-353, 98 Stat. 345, and regulations promulgated by the Judicial Conference of the United States. The Court of Appeals will make an appointment to this vacancy from a list of at least three nominees for the position submitted to it by the Sixth Circuit Judicial Council.

Qualifications. To be qualified for appointment as a bankruptcy judge, an applicant must possess the following minimum qualifications:

- (a) The applicant must be a member in good standing of the highest court of at least one state or the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and a member in good standing of every other bar of which the applicant is a member.
- (b) The applicant must have engaged in the active practice of law for at least five years (with some substitutions authorized).
- (c) The applicant also must possess the following abilities or characteristics: (1) competence to perform the duties of the office; (2) integrity and good character; (3) commitment to equal justice under the law; (4) sound physical and mental health; (5) outstanding legal ability and competence as evidenced by ability to deal with complex legal problems, aptitude for legal scholarship and writing, and familiarity with courts and court processes; (6) demeanor, character and personality that would exhibit good judicial temperament.
- (d) An applicant may not be related to a judge of the Court of Appeals, or to a judge of the judicial council of the Circuit, or the District Court in the district in which the vacancy occurs by blood or marriage within the degree of first cousin.

An affirmative effort will be made to give due consideration to all qualified candidates, including women and members of minority groups.

Application forms and further information may be obtained from the Office of the Circuit Executive, 503 Potter Stewart United States Courthouse, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, (513) 564-7200, or from the offices of the Clerks of the District and Bankruptcy Courts in the Western District of Michigan. Appointment procedures with attached application form are also available on the internet at www.ca6.uscourts.gov and click on the icon for the circuit executive. All applications must be received in the Office of the Circuit Executive no later than **5:00 P.M. on December 15, 2006.**

October 27, 2006